

Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Emergency Management Co-op Program;
Ile-a-Vache, Haiti.
Professor Tom Lennon



The Haiti Co-Op, Ile-a-Vache, Haiti

Project: Began in 2011. Goal was to provide undergraduate EM students with an internationally based, field-level experience in EM. Objective was to site in Haiti, but only if we could establish a program that was academically sound, logistically supportable, structured and SAFE.

My Experience: Retired Coast Guard Officer; worked in and around Haiti since early 1990s; supported/worked State Dept; DoD programs throughout Africa, Central and Southeast Asia.

Project to Date: Four student teams have traveled and worked in Haiti through this program (Combined 750 days on IAV). 5th team will depart for Haiti on 15 January.

- Jan/Feb 2011: 3 EM Students (5 weeks)
- July 2011: 4 MSEP Students (4 weeks)
- Jan/Feb 2012: 3 EM; 1 MSEP; 2 FE; 1 IMB (5 weeks)
- Jan/Feb 2013: 4 EM; 2 MSEP; 2 FE (4 weeks)
- Jan 2014: 5 EM; 2 FE, 1 IMB (10 days)



Four-Year Massachusetts State University

Undergraduate Programs

(1400 undergrads)

Energy Systems Engineering
Emergency Management
Facilities Engineering
International Maritime Business
Marine Safety & Environmental Protection
Marine Engineering*
Marine Transportation*

Graduate Programs

(18 month Executive Masters)

Emergency Management
Facilities Engineering

* USCG licensing exam upon graduation



Emergency Management Program

- Science based curriculum; BS awarded
- Blend classroom and field work;
- 160 EM students(undergrad/grad)
- Students declare major after freshman year;
- Two, 8-week field Cooperative Ed experiences required for graduation;
- Majority of students work federal, state, local and private sector EM positions in Massachusetts or elsewhere in New England.



Training Ship KENNEDY⁴

Ile-a-Vache, Haiti

IAV: 15,000 residents



Ile-a-Vache: 7 hours from PAP;

- 45 min boat ride
- 8mi long x 2 mi wide
- no power grid
- no vehicles
- no potable water
- no sewage treatment
- no hospital
- no economy

- + NGO's
- +schools (church based)
- +village living
- +wells and cisterns
- +subsistence farm/fish
- +cell phones
- + 2 small hotels

Language: Creole, French
Very little English spoken

The Ile-a-Vache Project

Developing Sustainable Mitigation and Preparedness Strategies and Programs for Ile-a-Vache, Haiti.

- **Phase 1:** Identifying Vulnerabilities
 - Mapping and metrics
 - Interviews and surveys
 - Publish report; create web site
 - Educate and outreach
 - Update and maintain report and web site
- **Phase 2:** Develop and Implement Strategies and Programs
 - Engage local NGO/Gov't officials
 - Must be achievable and sustainable at local level
 - Must have an academic component
 - **Winter 2014 Project is first attempt at Phase 2**



Making the Haiti Project Work

- Establishing achievable short and long term project goals
- Engage /Prep the students
 - Academic year commitment
 - Stress academic purpose/goals
 - Students need to gain ownership
 - Personal/team safety paramount
- Develop/Nuture in-country contacts
 - Ongoing process
 - Make them part of team
 - Underscore academic components of project
 - Personal/team safety paramount
- Keep Bosses/Parents informed
 - Keep school and parents informed/engaged
 - Make senior leadership part of program
 - Back-up your back-up plans!
 - Personal/team safety paramount



Sr. Flora and Fritz Cesar (Mayor)

The Nuts and Bolts

Students: Open to all majors; Juniors and Seniors; male/female. 8 students max/1 returning

Timing: Students apply/interview in early September. Selected students meet and work with me weekly through December.

Logistics/Safety: Coordinated with established team in Haiti for transport, housing, food, communications, interpreters, supervision, daily work plan etc. (2-3 times weekly)...back-up your back-up plans!

Students Expenses: Approximately \$2000.00 to cover flights; meals; lodging, local transport; interpreters etc.

University Support: Dean's Office provides 6 credit cost-waiver to participating students; covers my travel expenses for the trip.



Français | Kreyol



EDEM Foundation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide access to opportunities to communities in Haiti through sustainable education, agriculture, community development and reliable partnerships. (*Edem is Haitian Kreyol for "Help Me"*)



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

PORT AU PRINCE • HAITI

Phase 1 Mapping and Metrics; Interviews and Surveys



Lots of walking

Team's average work day:

0730 Breakfast/Team Meeting;
2-3 hour hike; (2 teams)
2-3 hour site work;
Return for late lunch;
2-hour digest/computer input;
1600 Team Meeting; end workday;
Swim, soccer, relax;
Dinner 1800;
Bedtime: 2000 (no lights!)
6-day work-week



Don't show Mom!



Inside typical school house



Site work

School House exterior



Phase 1 (Written assessment; University supported web-site)

MASSACHUSETTS
MARITIME
ACADEMY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT ILE-A-VACHE, HAITI

2011-2012



"The Last Virgin Island"



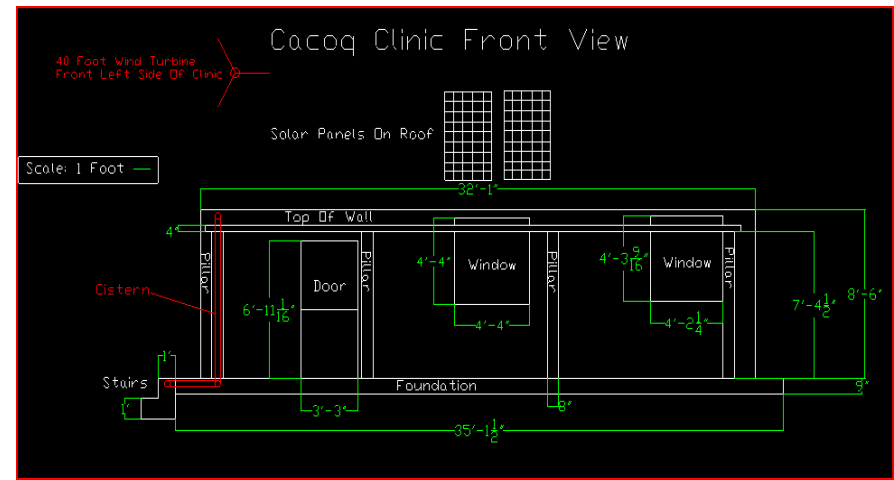
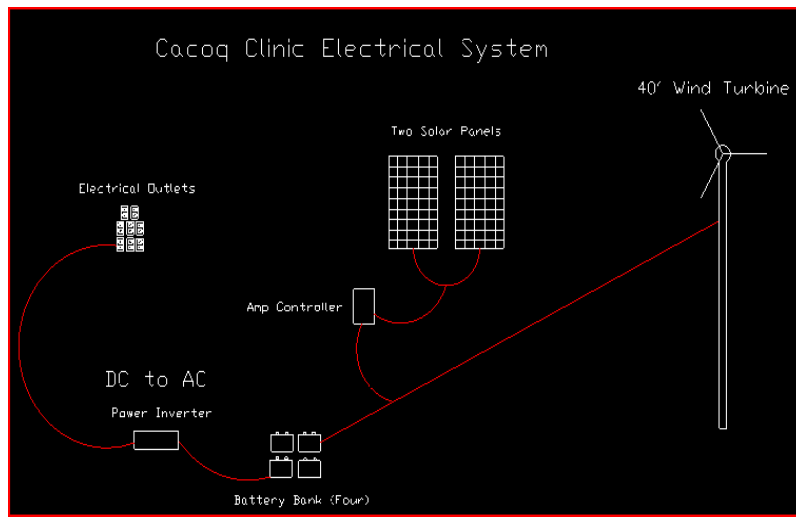
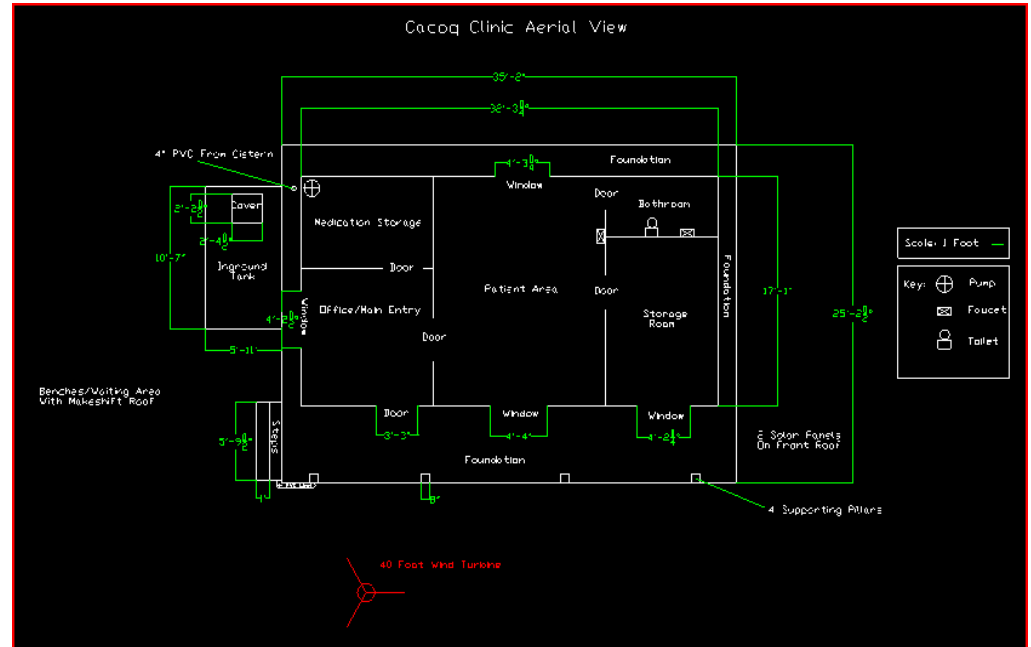
Massachusetts Maritime Academy

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Sample written assessment and web site content;

Web Link: <http://tmcenro6.wix.com/mass-maritime-haiti>



Phase 2 Developing Sustainable Mitigation and Preparedness Strategies and Programs for Ile-a-Vache

--January 2014 TS KENNEDY will anchor 3.2 nm off coast of IAV to offload:

- Well digging equipment—Cooperative between IAV Mayor's Office and Soul of Haiti
- Saw mill equipment—Cooperative between Just Mercy and EDEM
- 40 bicycles/bike equipment—EDEM Sponsored Cooperative
- Computer equipment for IAV Mayor's Office
- School and book supplies for local schools; Coordinated through EDEM
- Supplies for local orphanage

--Mass Maritime Students:

- Project Planning/Coordination
- NGO Liaison/Coordination
- Equipment delivery, ship on-load, Bills of Lading
- Government customs coordination
- Ship off-load
- IAV logistics coordination
- IAV equipment distribution/set up
- Phase I follow-up





Kesyon? (Haitian Creole for Questions)

